

REMARKS

The present application was filed on August 25, 2003 with Claims 1 through 71. Claims 6, 7, 27, 41, and 42 are presently pending in the above-identified patent application, and have been amended. Claims 1-5, 8-26, 28-40, and 43-71 have been canceled, without prejudice. Appropriate amendments have also been made to the specification and drawings.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings and specification; rejected Claims 1-3, 8-11, 13, 14, 21-24, 32-28, 43, 45-46, 52-54, 57-62, 65, 66, and 68-70 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Vinton et al. (United States Patent Publication No. 2004/0044525); rejected Claims 15, 16, 25, 26, 28, 47, and 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious in view of a proposed combination of Vinton et al. and Hemkumar et al. (United States Patent No. 6,356,871); rejected Claims 4, 5, 12, 17, 18, 19, 39, 40, 44, 49, 50, 51, 55, 56, 63, 64, 67, and 71 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious in view of a proposed combination of Vinton et al. and Schneider et al. (United States Patent No. 7,050,966); rejected Claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious in view of a proposed combination of Vinton et al., Schneider et al., and Lennig et al. (United States Patent No. 4,956,865); and rejected Claims 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious in view of a proposed combination of Vinton et al., Schneider et al., and Hemkumar et al.

Applicants and applicants' undersigned representative thank Examiner Lerner for his efforts in preparing the instant office action. Applicants acknowledge with deep gratitude the Examiner's indication that Claims 6, 7, 27, 41, and 42, while objected to, are allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Formal Objections to Drawings

The drawings have been amended to address the issues raised by the Examiner in paragraph 1 of the Office Action. Annotated copies of the original formal drawings, as well as exemplary replacement sheets are attached hereto, and a complete set of new formal drawings, incorporating the changes, is filed concurrently herewith.

Formal Objections to Specification

The specification has been amended to address the issues raised by the Examiner in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Office Action. The hyperlink has been broken up into non-executable prose. Please note with regard to the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 18, that while the text has been amended in two locations to read - - PCM file - -, as noted at page 28, line 14, other file formats may be used, as well

Art-Based Rejections

The claims indicated by the Examiner to contain allowable subject matter, namely, Claims 6, 7, 27, 41, and 42, have been amended to include the limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims, and it is respectfully asserted that the same are patentable. While Applicant believes that the claims as originally filed are allowable, Applicant has nonetheless canceled the non-allowed claims without prejudice. Applicant is not conceding in this application that those canceled claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

(Remainder of page intentionally left blank)

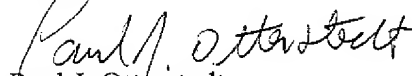
Conclusion

All of the pending claims following entry of the amendments, i.e., Claims 6, 7, 27, 41, and 42, are in condition for allowance and such favorable action is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below

The Examiner's attention to this matter is greatly appreciated

Respectfully submitted,



Paul J. Otterstedt

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 37,411

Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP

1300 Post Road, Suite 205

Fairfield, CT 06824

(203) 255-6560

Date: January 17, 2008